Scarcity of CNG

3814. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the difficulties being faced by CNG vehicle owners due to scarcity of CNG in the National Capital and NCR towns;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) has given contract to private players to lay pipelines for CNG in the NCR towns and thereafter nullified agreement with them for the supply of CNG;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps Government proposes to take to meet the shortage of CNG in the capital and also to ensure that CNG filling stations in NCR towns function in a smooth manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a), (b) and (e) The present allocation of 2 million standard cubic meters per day (mmscmd) to Indraprastha Gas Ltd. (IGL) is sufficient to meet the daily demand of CNG in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, as the number of CNG vehicles is on the rise, additional CNG stations are being set up to cater to meet the requirement of CNG vehicles. Further expansion of CNG infrastructure is being taken up in a phased manner depending upon availability of gas, setting up of necessary infrastructure and economic viability.

(c) and (d) GAIL has formed a Joint Venture Company with BPCL & Government of NCT of Delhi, namely IGL, for implementation of city gas distribution project in NCR towns. IGL is laying pipeline network to cater to PNG and CNG supply to various consumers in Delhi and Noida.

Taking over of sugar mills by oil companies

3815. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the Public Sector oil companies have taken over the sick Sugar Mills in the country for the purpose of producing ethanol blended petrol;

(b) if so, the break-up of PSU, alongwith the Sugar Mills taken over and the expected ethanol that would be channeled for blending per annum;

(c) whether any sick sugar mills were taken over or set up in the State of Andhra Pradesh for the said purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. HPCL have taken over two sick Sugar mills, one at Sugauli in East Champaran and another at Louris in West Champaran in the State of Bihar, for the purpose of producing ethanol blended petrol programme. Currently, study is being carried out and expected ethanol production from these two units will be established only after completion of the study.